



The Grace Anne Stewart Speaker Series



Welcome!

To keep EAS informed of Grace Anne Stewart Speaker Series (GASSS) activities, we will be circulating monthly newsletters throughout the year!

About the Grace Anne Stewart Speaker Series

The Grace Anne Stewart Speaker Series (GASSS) is a student-led equity, diversity, and inclusion (EDI) initiative which aims to address issues related to EDI in the Earth and Atmospheric sciences department at the UofA and broader geoscience community. The issues we wish to address include underrepresentation, inequality, discrimination, and bias related to gender, sexual orientation, race, ethnicity, ability, and neurodiversity in geoscience.

GASSS update and events

GASSS EAS Gear Drive

We are organizing a department gear drive ahead of the upcoming field school and field work season. Our goal is to collect items to help undergraduate and graduate students in EAS that have limited access to field gear. If you have any spare items that you no longer use, please consider donating them! We will accept any items ranging from field clothing to equipment. There is a donation bin set up in the EAS main office (ESB 1-26) for those that would like to drop off donations, which will remain open until **March 18, 2022**.

GASSS Program - Mentorship Program

We are happy to announce the launch of the pilot Mentorship Program in EAS. During the pilot program running from September 1, 2021 to April 30, 2022 we hope to improve the student experience in EAS and ensure better pastoral care. Mentor-mentee relationships will work to bridge the gap in communication between various levels of the department body and improve the sense of community for all in EAS. Our hope is to initiate a permanent mentorship program after feedback from the pilot program. If you have any questions or concerns about the mentorship program please feel free to

contact EASmentorship@gmail.com. If you missed the chance to participate as a mentee or mentor in the pilot program, everyone is able to view the [handbook](#) that provides a collection of resources on various topics from mental health to scholarships.

GASSS Program - Unlearning Racism in Geoscience (URGE)

As many know, a group from our department participated in the URGE program that took place from January 2021 to May 2021. This program was a 16-week structured reading and seminar course to learn about racism in geoscience, what we can do to be more inclusive, and develop policy and guidelines that are actively anti racist. A group from GASSS presented their work to date on the outcomes of the URGE program in a recent ATLAS talk on February 4, 2022. In case you missed it, you can watch it here:

Zoom Recording: https://ualberta-ca.zoom.us/rec/share/XHR2rJjBybY0JI56ttCJd0pB8DadO8Kcbl_t6Rth9z04qUEx3O0-0NGLyxzJcuvb.lu7IGUyw5vpnsWQj

Passcode: 2p!U5M8w

To view the outcomes of the URGE program please visit:

<https://cms.eas.ualberta.ca/gass/unlearning-racism-in-geoscience/>

URGEOSCIENCE – Unlearning Racism in Geoscience

We will need everyone's help to make all of our goals coming from the URGE program a reality! If you see a project you'd be interested in helping or leading please contact GASSS. Please note that you do not have to be on the GASSS committee to help with any of these projects.

Other Speaker Series and EDI initiatives

GeoWomen: [Advancing women working in the geoscience professions \(geowomen.org\)](https://www.geowomen.org)

Tuesday March 15th 2022 at 12 pm MDT: Rochelle Longval

Title: "Discovering your passion in the energy transition"

Register [here](#).

Scientific QUEERies: [Promoting the LGBTQIA2S+ community in STEM](#)

Tuesday March 15th 2022 at 1 pm MDT: Dr. Scott Davidson, Lecturer, University of Plymouth, Ecosystem Resilience, Peatlands.

Tuesday March 29th 2022 at 1 pm MDT: Dr. Daniel Palacios, Associate Professor, Marine Mammal Institute, Oregon State University, Marine Biology, Whale Conservation.

Please use the following google form to sign up to the mailing list if you wish to receive details for these and future talks: <https://forms.gle/bgLWhHMwosBTzNrb6>. The future speaker schedule can be found on their [website](#).

Resources

- [Multiculturalism, Indigenous and Inclusion Grant Program](#)
- [Inclusion Alberta](#) assists families and individuals with developmental disabilities.
- Edmonton-based inclusive podcast: [The Well Endowed Podcast](#)
- [WISEST STEM podcast](#) is all about advancing the conversation around diversity and inclusion in science, engineering and technology.

Activities in Edmonton and Surrounding Areas

- [All-Canadian Winter at the UAlberta Botanical Garden](#) - March 12th and 13th
- [Little Ray's Sloth World & Wildlife Rescue](#) - until March 31st

Supporting EDI

We encourage you to support EDI in any way you can; whether it be by contributing to a fundraiser or supporting local businesses! The links below can get you started but it is no way an exhaustive list.

Fundraisers

- [Black Health Alliance](#) - This is a community-led registered charity working to improve the health and well-being of Black communities in Canada.
- [True North Aid](#) - Runs projects to support the critical needs of Indigenous communities and help reduce the poverty gap that exists between them and the rest of Canada.

Businesses

- [Zen Lion Loungewear & Design](#) - Edmonton Black-owned small business.
- [Workhall](#) - Indigenous-owned clothing business operating in Edmonton and Vancouver.
- [The QUILTBAG](#) - Edmonton LGBTQ2S+ and Black-owned business that is an LGBTQ+ retail shop. This shop carries pins, pronoun buttons, patches, stickers, art by local artists, and trans gear.
- [Mother Earth Essentials](#) - Edmonton Indigenous-owned beauty and wellness shop.
- [Indigenous-owned businesses in Edmonton](#)
- [Black-owned business in Edmonton](#)

